

Kids Fishing Pond

- *The following special regulations also apply:* Only anglers age 15 and younger are allowed to fish in the area's Kids Fishing Pond.
- Anglers must check in at the Visitor Center prior to fishing.
- Bait transported or held in containers with water is prohibited.
- The daily limit for all fish shall be two (2) in the aggregate.
- No person shall continue to fish for any species after having two (2) fish in possession.
- The Kids Fishing Pond is a non-smoking area.

Hunting

- Area east of the access road is open to hunting under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply. Parking is available at front gate.*
- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Refer to Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey booklets for current regulations.
 - No hunting is allowed west of the access road.



- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only from September 1 through January 31 on areas where deer hunting is allowed, by special use permit, or except as otherwise authorized in the Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey booklet. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with the full name and address, or Conservation Number, of the owner and be removed from the area before February 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Trapping of furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by special use permit.

Nearby Department Areas

Brickley Hollow Access
Edmonson Access

Hi Lonesome Prairie Conservation Area
Drover's Prairie Conservation Area
Paint Brush Prairie Conservation Area
Truman Reservoir Management Lands

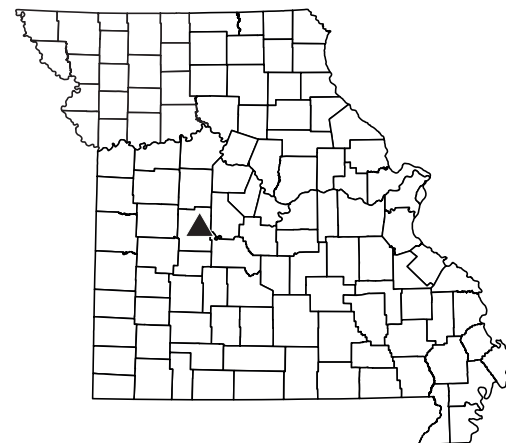
For local Information, Contact:

Lost Valley Fish Hatchery
28232 Hatchery Ave.
Warsaw, MO 65355
660-438-4465

7/2020

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp.) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

Lost Valley Fish Hatchery and Visitor Center CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Lost Valley Fish Hatchery and Visitor Center

About This Area

Lost Valley Fish Hatchery is the largest state-owned, warm water hatchery in Missouri and one of the largest in the nation. It is located east of Highway 65 on Lost Valley Road northeast of Warsaw.

The hatchery building houses a 2,000 square-foot visitor center where visitors can learn about warm water fish culture, fishing, and the Missouri Department of Conservation's role in aquatic resource management. Visitors may view the hatchery production room from two large windows inside the visitor center. The center is open from March through the end of November, and admission is free. The facility also contains 77 rearing ponds totaling 68.3 acres, as well as a 10-acre ambient temperature pond.

Lost Valley Hatchery rears a variety of fish species including walleye, muskellunge, channel catfish, largemouth bass, striped and hybrid bass, bluegill, and hybrid sunfish. The facility is being used to research propagation methods for endangered fish. Fish raised at the hatchery are used to stock public waters throughout Missouri.

Construction began in 1997 as a project of the Missouri Department of Conservation. Seventy-five percent of the \$19 million construction cost was funded by the Sport Fish Restoration Act, which places a federal excise tax on such items as boat motors, fishing tackle, and boat fuel. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service distributes these funds among the states according to the number of fishing permits sold and the amount of land and water. These funds are approved for projects that augment sport fish restoration. To that end, Lost Valley Hatchery is one of the largest projects funded by the Sport Fish Restoration Act in the nation. The Lost Valley Fish Hatchery and Visitor Center is situated on 969 acres in the Leigh Flats area east of Truman Lake. Visitors walking through the hatchery grounds can experience a variety of natural settings, from prairie areas to Missouri glades. A section of Sterett Creek runs through this valley. It supports native fish, as well

as aquatic invertebrates like crayfish, mayflies and dragonflies.

The hatchery grounds support a diversity of plant life. There are cedar stands with mixed hardwoods in a forested section where plants like fragrant sumac, violets, and star grass are plentiful. Two natural glades are home to native wildflowers, including purple coneflower, Indian paintbrush, fringed puccoon, prickly pear cactus, and feverfew.

Wildlife is frequently seen on the area. The glades are prime locations to see tarantulas, lizards, and scorpions. Uncut timber provides ideal habitat for whitetailed deer, turkey, and even bobcats.

Bird species are plentiful, including eastern bluebirds and indigo buntings. Great blue herons, green herons, and belted kingfishers are also frequently seen. Winter bird visitors include bald eagles and gulls.

Waterfowl use both the detention ponds on the hatchery grounds and a wetland area created from a borrow pit.

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching and Nature Study - Fishing - Hunting - Outdoor Photography - Wildlife Viewing - Exhibits - Aquarium

Visitor Center hours are: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (closed 11:30-12:30) Thursday through Saturday, March 1 – October 31. The Visitor Center is closed all state holidays and weekends of Memorial Day, Independence Day (when it falls on a weekend), and Labor Day.

Conservation Area

- No littering. Waste containers may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires.
- No camping permitted.
- No target shooting allowed.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being used for hunting.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation, including wildflowers, is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken only for personal consumption. On areas

designated as Missouri Natural Areas, taking edible wild greens is prohibited.

- Motor vehicles are restricted to the access road and parking area.
- Horseback riding is permitted only on roads open to vehicles and on designated horse trails or by special use permit. Groups of more than 10 equestrians must obtain a special use permit.
- Bicycles are allowed only on roads and trails open to vehicles, except where further restricted by posting. Groups of more than 10 cyclists must obtain a special use permit.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.

Visitor Center

- **Exhibits.** A variety of exhibits focusing on fishing and aquatic themes include an oversize model of a native Missouri mussel, a model of hatchery water flow, measuring and identifying fish, electronic interactives, and many other demonstrations and displays.
- **Aquarium.** The center includes a 12,700-gallon aquarium which houses several species of Missouri fish.
- **Permits.** The center sells Missouri hunting and fishing permits.

Hatchery Facts

- Water to operate the hatchery is drawn from seven wells that each are about 1,200 feet deep. A computer system rotates well usage to lessen the effect on the water table.
- The hatchery contains 61 one-acre ponds, 13 half-acre ponds and three one-tenth acre ponds. Each one-acre pond holds about 1 million gallons of water.
- Each pond was constructed using polypropylene liners to decrease maintenance and reduce the effect of burrowers such as crayfish.

Fishing

- Fishing is permitted under Lake of the Ozarks regulations on the portion of Lake of the Ozarks adjacent to Lost Valley Hatchery.